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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/973,773	10/11/2001	Hwa Young Yun	0630-1330P	7561

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EXAMINER	
BUI, KIEU OANH T	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2623	

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/973,773	YUN, HWA YOUNG	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	KIEU-OANH BUI	2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 August 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-5 and 7-22* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-5, 7-22* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 08/14/06 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5 and 7-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> *(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.*

4. Claims 1-5, 7-16 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldschmidt Iki et al. "Goldschmidt" (U.S. 6,594,825) in view of Haraguchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,721,803).

Regarding claims 1 and 22, Goldschmidt teaches, "receiving an identical broadcasting program" by disclosing in figure 1, system controller 104 of system 100 receives programming input from cable 124, satellite 126, and broadcast 134 (Col. 4, lines 38-44). Goldschmidt teaches, searching and outputting a broadcasting program identical to a received broadcasting program from multiplex broadcasting media on the basis of a source ID of the received broadcasting program received from broadcasting medium by disclosing in figure 3, the process of receiving a program selection [302], identifying alternative versions [304] (i.e., higher quality and picture) of the program by searching EPG 212 for additional entries having the same identifier or "source ID", providing the user with alternate versions selections[310], receiving an alternate selection [312] and tuning to the selected version [314] (Col. 6, line 22 – Col. 7, line 18). Goldschmidt teaches, displaying channel information related to the searched identical broadcasting program when the identical broadcasting program is searched from the multiplex broadcasting media (310 – figure 3; Col. 6, line 67 – Col. 7, line 5). Goldschmidt further discloses program selection controller 208 provides the user with the alternate versions of the program [310] and the results are then displayed in a separate box or window on the display device or by overlaying the current video display with the options (Col. 7, lines 5-11).

Goldschmidt does not teach the step of searching programs "wherein the program of the channel selected by the user and the program being searched for are identical programs of an identical version" (as pre-amended); however, Haraguchi, in an analogous art, teaches a method for searching and identifying same programs or identical programs of an identical version in order to control the delivery and reduce number of requests and number of playback (refer to Fig. 1 for an overview system, col. 1/line 40 to col. 2/line 16 & col. 3/lines 10-63; and col.

10/lines 30-45) together with the disclosure on the source ID and reel ID for locating the programs in the database (Fig. 4 and col. 4/lines 22-45) depending on the type of programs, i.e., analog or digital, and the medium for storage and recording for playback at different rates (col. 3/lines 30-42 & Figs. 11-12 and col. 14/lines 45-63). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Goldschmidth's system with Haraguchi's detailed technique as disclosed in order to search for identical programs of identical version. The motivation for doing this is to identify and quickly locate identical programs with identical versions in order to provide the user a quick response on user's request whether a same program being delivered in analog or an enhanced version in digital as taught by Haraguchi.

As for Claim 2, Goldschmidt teaches, wherein the identical broadcasting program is outputted by searching a broadcasting program having the same source ID of the received broadcasting program by disclosing program selection controller 208 searches through the data of EPG 212 for alternate versions of the initial program selection made [302 – figure 3] by searching EPG 212 for additional entries having the same identifier or "source ID" (Col. 6, lines 35-53).

As for Claim 3, Goldschmidt teaches, selecting whether a broadcasting medium of the searched identical broadcasting program is to be converted by reporting the searched identical broadcasting program to a user (310, 312, 314 – figure 3; Col. 6, line 67 – Col. 7, line 15). Goldschmidt discloses program selection controller 208 provides the user with the alternate versions of the program. The results can be displayed in a separate box or window on the display

device or by overlaying the current video display with the options (Col. 6, line 67 – Col. 7, line 5).

As for Claim 4, Goldschmidt teaches, "wherein the source ID is read from a channel information database" by disclosing alternate versions of the program are found by searching EPG 212 or "channel information database" for the program identifier or "source ID" (Col. 6, lines 47-50).

As for Claim 5, Goldschmidt teaches displaying a message to viewers when alternate versions of a program are identified (Col. 6, line 67 – Col. 7, line 5).
However, Goldschmidt fails to disclose displaying a message that there is no identical broadcasting program, when the identical broadcasting program does not exist after searching the multiplex broadcasting media. The examiner gives Official Notice that it is notoriously well known in the art to display informational messages to a user to provide notification and information related to the result of the search of identical programming, particularly when there is no identical programming presently available. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Goldschmidt in order to display a message that there is no identical broadcasting program, when the identical broadcasting program does not exist after searching the multiplex broadcasting media for the benefit of providing a . user-friendly message that notifies the viewer that the identical broadcast program was not found.

(Claim 6 was canceled).

As for Claim 7, Goldschmidt teaches, wherein the related channel information is information about the broadcasting media, which includes, numbers of channels in which the identical broadcasting program is transmitted by disclosing program selection controller 208 displays all the characteristics for each version to allow the user make an informed decision as the which version is preferred (Col. 7, lines 5-8). Goldschmidt further teaches any of the information stored in the EPG can be uses as a basis for distinguishing between different versions of a program (Col. 8, lines 48-52).

As for Claim 8, Goldschmidt teaches, wherein the searching step is performed automatically in case the broadcasting signals of the received broadcasting program are in poor quality or in case broadcasting signals having high sound quality or picture quality are requested by disclosing after the user selects a program [302], program selection controller 208 will automatically search for alternate versions of the requested program [304] (Col. 6, lines 23-53). Further, characteristics 414 are used in determining which of the multiple versions of a program is to be displayed to a user. Examples of characteristics include type of audio support and screen format (Col. 8, lines 23-52).

Regarding Claim 9, Goldschmidt teaches, receiving an identical broadcasting program by disclosing in figure 1, system controller 104 of system 100 receives programming input from cable 124, satellite 126, and broadcast 134 (Col. 4, lines 38-44).
Goldschmidt teaches, reading a source ID of a broadcasting program transmitted from a broadcasting medium by disclosing different versions of a program are identified by searching entries having the same identifier or "source ID" (Col. 6, lines 47-50).

Goldschmidt teaches, searching for a broadcasting program having source ID identical to the read source ID from multiplex media so as to locate a broadcasting program identical to the transmitted broadcasting program by disclosing alternate versions of the requested program are identified by searching entries having the identical identifier or "source ID" and the alternate versions of a program may be from different sources or "multiplex media" (Col. 6, lines 47-53). Goldschmidt teaches, receiving a selection indicating whether a broadcasting medium of the searched identical broadcasting program is to be converted or not by reporting the searching result to a user (312, 314 — figure 3; Col. 7, lines 12-15). Goldschmidt discloses the program selection controller 208 provides the user with the alternate versions to allow the user to make a choice (Col. 6, line 66 — Col. 7, line 17).

Goldschmidt teaches, displaying information about the broadcasting media and a number of a channel in which the searched identical broadcasting program is carried if the identical broadcasting program is located (310 — figure 3; Col. 6, line 67 — Col. 7, line 5). Goldschmidt further discloses program selection controller 208 provides the user with the alternate versions of the program [310] and the results are then displayed in a separate box or window on the display device or by overlaying the current video display with the options (Col. 7, lines 2-5). Further, program selection controller 208. displays all the characteristics for each version to allow the user to make an informed decision as to which version are preferred (Col. 7, lines 5-11). Examples of characteristics to be displayed as shown in figure 4 include source identifier 402 (also known as channel number), channel transport medium 404, channel audio support 406, program characteristics 414, etc.

Goldschmidt does not clearly teach the step of searching programs for "identical programs... by reading source ID" (as argued); however, Haraguchi, in an analogous art, teaches a method for searching and identifying same programs or identical programs of an identical version in order to control the delivery and reduce number of requests and number of playback (refer to Fig. 1 for an overview system, col. 1/line 40 to col. 2/line 16 & col. 3/lines 10-63; and col. 10/lines 30-45) together with the disclosure on the source ID and reel ID for locating the programs in the database (Fig. 4 and col. 4/lines 22-45) depending on the type of programs, i.e., analog or digital, and the medium for storage and recording for playback at different rates (col. 3/lines 30-42 & Figs. 11-12 and col. 14/lines 45-63). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Goldschmidth's system with Haraguchi's detailed technique as disclosed in order to search for identical programs of identical version. The motivation for doing this is to identify and quickly locate identical programs with identical versions in order to provide the user a quick response on user's request whether a same program being delivered in analog or an enhanced version in digital as taught by Haraguchi.

As for Claim 10, Goldschmidt teaches, "wherein the source ID is read from a channel information database" by disclosing searching EPG 212 or "channel information database" for additional entries having the same identifier or "source ID" (Col. 6, lines 47-50).

As for Claim 11, Goldschmidt teaches, converting a current channel to the channel in which the searched identical broadcasting program is carried using a channel information database of the corresponding medium in response to the selection received in the receiving step by disclosing program selection controller 208 waits to receive a user selection of one of the

versions and system 200 then "tunes" to the appropriate source and/or channel for the selected version (Col. 7, lines 12-15). Furthermore, when the results of the search are displayed to the user, all the characteristics are shown in order to allow the user to make an informed decision. The characteristics that are displayed are shown in EPG 400 (figure 4), so the broadcast information that is necessary to be shown, is retrieved from EPG 212 or "channel information database".

However, Goldschmidt fails to discloses reporting a searching result if the searching step indicates there is no identical broadcasting program does not exist after searching the source ID. The examiner gives Official Notice that it is well known in the art to display informational messages to a user to provide notification and information related to the result of the search of identical programming, particularly when there is no identical programming presently available. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the .invention was made to modify Goldschmidt in order to report a search result if the searching step indicates that there is no identical broadcast program for the benefit of providing a user-friendly message that notifies the viewer that the identical broadcast program was not found.

Regarding Claim 12, Goldschmidt teaches an apparatus (100 — figure 1) for receiving an identical broadcasting program, in a device for outputting an image signal or voice signal by receiving broadcasting signal through multiplex broadcasting media" by disclosing apparatus 100 in figure 1 includes, system controller 104 which receives broadcasting programming from multiple inputs (i.e., cable, satellite, terrestrial) within system 100, which outputs the signal to TV 102. Goldschmidt teaches, an identical broadcasting program searching unit (206 — figure 2) for searching a channel having an identical broadcast program as a program of a channel

selected by a user (Col. 5, lines 44-63). Disclosed, EPG controller 206 is used to access EPG 212 to search for multiple versions of the requested program (Col. 5, lines 44-63). Goldschmidt teaches, a channel selection unit (208 — figure 2) for selecting a broadcasting signal corresponding to the searched channel (Col. 5, lines 55-63). Disclosed, program selection controller 208 or "channel selection unit", selects which of the multiple versions is to be displayed to the user after searching EPG 212 or "channel information database". Program selection controller 208 may also allow a user to select which version of the requested program will be displayed (Col. 6, line 66 — Col. 7, line 11).

Goldschmidt teaches, displaying channel information related to the identical broadcasting program when the identical broadcasting program is searched from the multiplex broadcasting media (310 — figure 3; Col. 6, line 67 — Col. 7, line 5). Goldschmidt further discloses program selection controller 208 provides the user with the alternate versions of the program [310) and the results are then displayed in a separate box or window on the display device or by overlaying the current video display with the options (Col. 7, lines 5-11).

Goldschmidt does not teach the step of searching programs "wherein the program of the channel selected by the user and the program being searched for are identical programs of an identical version" (as pre-amended); however, Haraguchi, in an analogous art, teaches a method for searching and identifying same programs or identical programs of an identical version in order to control the delivery and reduce number of requests and number of playback (refer to Fig. 1 for an overview system, col. 1/line 40 to col. 2/line 16 & col. 3/lines 10-63; and col. 10/lines 30-45) together with the disclosure on the source ID and reel ID for locating the programs in the database (Fig. 4 and col. 4/lines 22-45) depending on the type of programs, i.e.,

analog or digital, and the medium for storage and recording for playback at different rates (col. 3/lines 30-42 & Figs. 11-12 and col. 14/lines 45-63). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Goldschmidth's system with Haraguchi's detailed technique as disclosed in order to search for identical programs of identical version. The motivation for doing this is to identify and quickly locate identical programs with identical versions in order to provide the user a quick response on user's request whether a same program being delivered in analog or an enhanced version in digital as taught by Haraguchi.

As for Claim 13, Goldschmidt teaches, wherein the identical broadcasting program searching unit (206 — figure 2) searches a broadcasting program having a same source ID as a source ID of the program of the channel selected by the user, from the multiplex broadcasting media by disclosing program selection controller 208 requests EPG controller 206 to search through the data of EPG 212 for different versions of a program by searching EPG 212 for additional entries having the same identifier or "source ID" (Col. 5, lines 51-54 and Col. 6, lines 35-53). Goldschmidt further teaches program selection controller 208 or "channel selecting unit" accesses EPG 212 "channel information database" via EPG controller 206 or "identical broadcasting program searching unit" (Col. 5, lines 58-60).

As for Claim 14, Goldschmidt teaches "wherein the channel selection unit selects the broadcasting signal selected by the user" by disclosing program selection controller 208 or "channel selection unit" provides the user with alternate versions of the program, then waits for the user to make a selection and tunes to the selected version (Col. 7, lines 5-18).

As for Claim 15, Goldschmidt teaches "a channel information database for storing channel information corresponding to the multiplex broadcasting media" by disclosing EPG 212 or "channel information database" is used by program selection controller 208 via EPG controller 206 to search through the data for alternate versions of the currently displayed program (Col. 6, lines 38-53).

As for Claim 16, Goldschmidt teaches, wherein the identical broadcasting program searching unit searches the multiplex broadcasting media to receive broadcasting signals which are poor or broadcasting signals having high sound quality or picture quality by disclosing program selection controller 208 utilizes user preferences 214 (preferred viewing options or characteristics) in selecting multiple versions of a program (Col. 5, line 64 – Col. 6, line 8). Program selection controller 208 via EPG controller 206 or "identical broadcasting program searching unit" searches EPG 212 for characteristics 414, which can be used in determining which of multiple versions of a program is to be displayed to a user. Examples of characteristics include type of audio support and screen format (Col. 8, Tines 23-52). Goldschmidt teaches any information stored in the EPG can be used as a basis for distinguishing between different versions of a program, which would include the source identifier 402 or "channel number".

5. Claims 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldschmidt (US Patent 6,594,825 B1) and Haraguchi (US Patent 5,721,803) in further view of Schneidewend et al. (U.S. Patent 6,182,287).

Regarding Claim 17, Goldschmidt discloses an apparatus (100 — figure 1) for receiving an identical broadcasting program by disclosing in figure 1, system controller 104 of system 100 receives programming input from cable 124, satellite 126, and broadcast 134 (Col. 4, lines 38-44).

Goldschmidt teaches, a channel selection unit (208 — figure 2) for selecting a broadcasting signal of a channel selected by a user by disclosing program selection controller 208 or "channel selection unit", tunes to the appropriate source and channel for the selected version [step 3141 (Col. 6, line 66 — Col. 7, lines 15).

Goldschmidt teaches a channel information database (212 — figure 2) for storing channel information corresponding to the multiplex broadcasting media by disclosing EPG 212 or "channel information database" is used by program selection controller 208 via EPG controller 206 to search through the data for alternate versions of the currently displayed program (Col. 6, lines 38-53).

Goldschmidt teaches, an identical broadcasting program searching unit (206 — figure 2) for searching a channel in which an identical broadcasting program corresponding to the broadcasting program of the channel selected by the user is transmitted from the multiplex broadcasting media by comparing the channel selected by the user and the channel information stored in the channel information database by disclosing EPG controller 206 or "identical broadcasting program searching unit", which is used to access EPG 212 to search for multiple versions of programs that have identical identifiers to the program requested by the user (Col. 5, lines 44-63). Goldschmidt further teaches program selection controller 208 accesses EPG 212 via EPG controller 206 (Col. 5, lines 58-60). Further, program selection controller 208 searches

through the data in EPG 212 via EPG controller 206 to identify different versions of program by searching EPG 212 for additional entries having the same identifier or "source ID" (Col. 6, lines 35-53).

Goldschmidt teaches, a microcomputer (204 — figure 2) for outputting the control signal for converting the channel selected by the user into the searched channel" by disclosing device controller 204 or "microcomputer" is used to control the various components within the entertainment system and controls commands to change the various parameters of the components (Col. 5, lines 38-43).

Goldschmidt teaches, wherein the microcontroller (204 — figure 2) displays channel information related to the identical broadcasting program on a monitor (102 — figure 1) when the identical broadcasting program is searched from the multiplex broadcasting media by the identical broadcast search unit (206 — figure 2) (Col. 6, line 66 — Col. 7, line 15). Goldschmidt discloses device controller 204 controls all the various components. Further, program selection controller 208, which is controlled by device controller 204 or "microcomputer", provides the user with the alternate version options of the program [310] and the results are then displayed in a separate box or window on the display device or by overlaying the current video display with the options (Col. 7, lines 5-11).

Goldschmidt does not teach the step of searching programs "wherein the program of the channel selected by the user and the program being searched for are identical programs of an identical version" (as pre-amended); however, Haraguchi, in an analogous art, teaches a method for searching and identifying same programs or identical programs of an identical version in order to control the delivery and reduce number of requests and number of playback (refer to

Fig. 1 for an overview system, col. 1/line 40 to col. 2/line 16 & col. 3/lines 10-63; and col. 10/lines 30-45) together with the disclosure on the source ID and reel ID for locating the programs in the database (Fig. 4 and col. 4/lines 22-45) depending on the type of programs, i.e., analog or digital, and the medium for storage and recording for playback at different rates (col. 3/lines 30-42 & Figs. 11-12 and col. 14/lines 45-63). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Goldschmidth's system with Haraguchi's detailed technique as disclosed in order to search for identical programs of identical version. The motivation for doing this is to identify and quickly locate identical programs with identical versions in order to provide the user a quick response on user's request whether a same program being delivered in analog or an enhanced version in digital as taught by Haraguchi.

However, Goldschmidt and Haraguchi fail to disclose a demultiplexer for separating image and voice signals in the selected broadcasting signal and a decoding unit for decoding and outputting the separated image and voice signals. In an analogous art, Schneidewend discloses a video decoder capable of receiving multiple broadcast streams, comprising a demultiplexer 22, which is used to separate video and audio packets and to provide the packets to decoder 25, which is used to output the separated video and audio as shown in figure 2 (Col. 4, lines 20-34). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Goldschmidt and Haraguchi with the teachings of Schneidewend in order to comprise a demultiplexer and decoder for the benefit of providing a separated video and audio signal to a display device (e.g., TV or computer).

As for Claim 18, Goldschmidt and Schneidewend disclose, in particular Goldschmidt teaches "wherein the channel selection unit selects the broadcasting program corresponding to the channel selected by the user" by disclosing program selection controller is used to select which of the multiple versions is to be displayed to the user (Col. 5, lines 60-61):

As for Claim 19, Goldschmidt and Schneidewend disclose, in particular Goldschmidt teaches "wherein the identical broadcasting program searching unit searches the identical broadcasting program from the multiplex broadcasting media" by disclosing program selection controller 208 searches EPG 212 via EPG controller 206 for different versions of a program having the same identifier (Col. 6, lines 35-53).

However, Goldschmidt fails to teach performing the search if a channel conversion signal is outputted from a remote controller or another input unit is received. The examiner gives Official Notice that it is notoriously well known in the art to provide a user with a remote control that comprises a button that will provide a signal to the receiver to perform an assigned operation, like performing a search of an EPG to find identical programming. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Goldschmidt and Schneidewend in order to include a remote control or input device that would facilitate initiation of searching the EPG for identical programming for the benefit of providing the user with the ability to use a user-friendly device to indicate the desire for alternate versions of programming.

As for Claim 20, Goldschmidt and Schneidewend disclose, in particular Goldschmidt teaches "wherein the identical broadcasting program searching unit searches the identical broadcasting program to receive broadcasting signals which are poor or broadcasting signals having high sound quality or picture quality" by disclosing program selection controller 208 utilizes user preferences 214 (preferred viewing options or characteristics) in selecting multiple versions of a program (Col. 5, line 64 — Col. 6, line 8). Program selection controller 208 via EPG controller 206 or "identical broadcasting program searching unit" searches EPG 212 by searching for entries with the same identifier (e.g., movie title or sitcom name). Further, program selection controller 208 via EPG controller 206 or "identical broadcasting program searching unit" can search EPG 212 for characteristics 414, which can be used in determining which of multiple versions of a program is to be displayed to a user. Examples of characteristics 414 can include the type of audio support and screen format (Col. 8, lines 23-52). Goldschmidt teaches any information stored in the EPG can be used as a basis for distinguishing between different versions of a program, which would include the program description 412 or "broadcast program".

As for Claim 21, Goldschmidt and Schneidewend disclose, in particular Goldschmidt teaches wherein the identical broadcasting program searching unit (206 — figure 2) searches a broadcasting program having a same source ID as a source ID of the broadcasting program of the channel selected by the user from the multiplex broadcasting media by disclosing program selection controller 208 searches through the data of EPG 212 via a service request to EPG controller 206 (Col. 5, lines 51-54), for alternate versions of the user's requested program by searching EPG 212 for additional entries having the same identifier or "source ID" (Col. 6, lines

35-53). Goldschmidt further teaches program selection controller 208 or "channel selecting unit" accesses EPG 212 "channel information database" via EPG controller 206 or "identical broadcasting program searching unit" (Col. 5, lines 58-60). Goldschmidt further teaches alternate versions of a program may be from different sources (Cable, Satellite, UHF, etc.).

Conclusion

6. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to PTO New Central Fax number:

(571) 273-8300, (for Technology Center 2600 only)

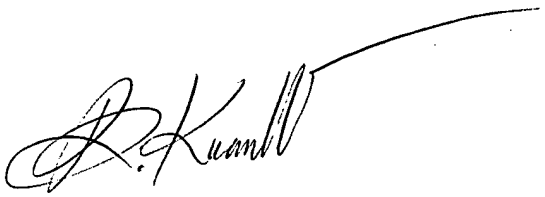
Hand deliveries must be made to Customer Service Window,
Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krista Kieu-Oanh Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-7291. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM, with alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Miller, can be reached at (571) 272-7353.

The Art Unit location of your application in the USPTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Division or Art Unit 2623.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kieu-Oanh Bui
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2623

KB
Oct.04, 2006